**Expenditure on inter-linking of rivers**

†1618. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of progress made in inter-linking of rivers in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to inter-link the Beas, Satluj and Swan rivers flowing in Himachal Pradesh and some other rivers flowing in the Central and Southern parts of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount likely to be spent on inter-linking of rivers and the time likely to be taken in this regard; and

(e) whether Government propose to bear cent-per cent cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging interbasin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/ areas which comprises of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MoWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links for preparing Feasibility Reports (FRs). NWDA has completed feasibility reports for 14 links under Peninsular Rivers Development Component and two links under Himalayan Rivers Development Component. A tripartite agreement was signed among Government of India and concerned States of Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh on 25.8.2005 in respect of one priority link under Peninsular Component *viz.* Ken-Betwa link for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR). There is no proposal to interlink the beas, Sutlej and Swan rivers with other rivers in the country under the NPP. The Peninsular Component of NPP covers the rivers flowing in the central and southern part of the country.

(d) and (e) As per the preliminary estimate, the Interlinking of Rivers(ILR) programme is estimated to cost about Rs. 5,60,000 crores at 2002 price level. However, the realistic cost can be estimated only after completion of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

DPRs of all the constituent link projects. As of now, the stage has not come for the financial planning of the ILR project which would be considered by the Government at appropriate time. The time for implementation of ILR programme depends upon the consensus & cooperation of the States.

**Irrigation schemes for Punjab and Maharashtra**

1619. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation schemes approved for Punjab and Maharashtra;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned/released by Centre to each State Government separately, during the last three years, scheme-wise, till date; and

(c) the number of schemes completed within scheduled time limit and the number of schemes which are still pending, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) The Planning Commission has accorded investment clearance to one major irrigation project of Punjab and eight of Maharashtra (1 major and 7 medium) during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The details of these irrigation projects are at Statement-I. (*See* below)

(b) The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance to States including Punjab and Maharashtra for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years. The details of Central Loan Assistance/grant released to the States of Punjab and Maharashtra during the last three years, project-wise, till-date, are at Statement-II. (*See* below)

(c) In Maharashtra, 8 projects out of 30 major/medium irrigation projects (including 2 inter-State projects) receiving Central Loan Assistance/grant under AIBP have been reported as completed and the remaining 22 projects are in progress. Among the completed projects in Maharashtra, 6 projects were completed as per schedule. In Punjab, one project out of five major/medium irrigation projects receiving Central Loan Assistance/ grant under AIBP has been reported as completed within scheduled time limit and the remaining 4 are in progress.